

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 HA-05 SOE-02 AF-10
ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

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TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JULY 11 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

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1. BERNARD GWERTZMAN OF THE NEW YORK TIMES SAID THAT SEC-
RETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE, DESPITE TRIALS OF TWO SOVIET
DISSIDENTS, LEFT FOR GENEVA FOR TALKS ON STRATEGIC ARMS
LIMITATION TALKS WITH SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI
GROMYKO. GWERTZMAN SAID VANCE RECEIVED POLITICAL CRITICISM
FROM CAPITOL HILL AND JEWISH LEADERS FOR NOT DEFERRING HIS
TRIP PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE TRIALS OF ANATOLY SHCHARAN-

SKY AND ALEXANDER GINZBURG. SENATOR HENRY JACKSON (D-WA) CLAIMED THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE ARMS NEGOTIATIONS DOES NOT DEPEND ON THIS PARTICULAR MEETING AND SHOULD BE POSTPONED. HOWEVER, VANCE ASSERTS THAT THE TALKS ARE OF A "SPECIAL QUALITY" AND THEY SHOULD PROCEED AS PLANNED, STRESSING THAT NEGOTIATIONS AFFECT THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE "SECURITY AND WELL-BEING OF THE WORLD."

2. THE BALTIMORE SUN REPORTS THAT THE U.S. WILL RETAIN THE OPTION OF DEPLOYING A MOBILE LONG-RANGE MISSILE IN SALT TWO. THE TEXT SAID THAT ACCORDING TO CYRUS VANCE, THE

ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT MADE A FINAL DECISION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT TO DEVELOP SUCH A WEAPON, BUT VANCE CONTENTS THAT THE OPTION WILL BE PRESERVED. THERE ARE PRESENTLY TWO DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO MOBILE MISSILE DEVELOPMENT. IN ONE APPROACH, A LIMITED NUMBER OF ICBM'S WOULD BE DEPLOYED ON UNDERGROUND TRACKS. IN THE OTHER APPROACH, MANY SILOS WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED AND A LIMITED NUMBER OF ICBM'S WOULD BE TRANSPORTED AT RANDOM FROM ONE SILO TO ANOTHER. ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS CONTENT THAT THE LATTER PROPOSAL IS MORE EASILY VERIFIABLE, BUT WITH EITHER PROPOSAL NEGOTIATIONS MAY BECOME MORE COMPLICATED, SUN REPORTED.

3. TIME MAGAZINE (JULY 17) SAID THAT THE TIMING OF TRIALS OF TWO SOVIET DISSIDENTS HAVE CAUSED SPECULATION AMONG UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. OFFICIALS, SOME FEELING THAT HOLDING THE TRIALS DURING THE SAME PERIOD AS THE VANCE-GROMYKO MEETING IN GENEVA THIS WEEK WOULD SHED LESS LIGHT ON THE TRIALS, AND OTHER OFFICIALS WONDERING IF THE COINCIDENCE OF THE TWO EVENTS ARE A DELIBERATE TEST OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY OF NOT LINKING SALT WITH OTHER EVENTS. THE TEXT NOTES THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, ALTHOUGH NO BREAKTHROUGHS ARE THOUGHT TO OCCUR IN THIS ROUND OF TALKS. VANCE WILL REPORTEDLY DISCUSS THE SOVIET BACKFIRE BOMBER AND ITS POSSIBLE USE AS STRATEGIC WEAPON, AS WELL AS DISCUSSING THE TIME FRAMES OF THE ACCORD. THE U.S. ARGUES THAT THEY WANT THE THREE-YEAR PROTOCOL TO TAKE EFFECT RETROACTIVELY FROM WHEN THE SALT ONE AGREEMENT EXPIRED. THE SOVIETS WANT THE AGREEMENT TO BEGIN WHEN IT IS ACTUALLY SIGNED. THE STORY SAID THAT IF SOME OF THE KEY PROBLEMS ARE SOLVED THIS WEEK IN GENEVA, THE REST COULD BE LEFT UNTIL SEPTEMBER WHEN GROMYKO IS IN THE U.S. FOR THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. TIME MAGAZINE DOES POINT OUT THAT EVEN WHEN AN AGREEMENT IS REACHED A "USPICIOUS U.S. SENATE" STILL MUST RATIFY IT. EXPLANATIONS OF SENATE HESITATION INCLUDE CONCERN OVER RECENT SOVIET ACTIVITIES AND THE FAILURE OF THE SALT

PROCESS TO MEET ITS EXPECTATIONS. SO FAR, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE EVIDENCE OF ACTUAL REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS. IN ADDITION, THE ARMS CONTROL IMPACT STATEMENTS, RELEASED LAST WEEK, INDICATED THAT "SPACE WARS" MAY BE IN THE FUTURE BETWEEN US AND SOVIET UNION. THE TEXT DOES STRESS, HOWEVER, THAT IN THE CONTINUING SALT PROCESS, SALT III OR IV MAY PROVIDE A HIGH ENOUGH LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE SO THAT BOTH SUPERPOWERS COULD HALT THEIR NUCLEAR ARMS EFFORTS.

4. WASHINGTON POST'S WALTER PINCUS REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT SCIENTISTS BELIEVE THEY HAVE FOUND A WAY TO BUILD CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS AND THEN LATER CONVERT THEM TO

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NUCLEAR WEAPONS. REFERENCES TO THE "INSERTABLE NUCLEAR COMPONENTS," OR INCS WERE CITED IN THE RECENTLY RELEASED ARMS CONTROL IMPACT STATEMENTS. ARMS CONTROL EXPERTS, OPPOSED TO THE PLAN, CONTEND THAT THE INCS WILL BE DIFFICULT TO VERIFY AND BECAUSE OF THAT CONCERN THE WHITE HOUSE HAS UNDERTAKEN A STUDY OF INCS AND WILL NOT ALLOCATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS UNLESS "THE PRESIDENT DECIDES TO GO AHEAD." INCS WERE DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE THE NECESSITY OF HAVING BOTH NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL VERSIONS OF THE SAME WEAPON, BUT, POINTS OUT SENATOR JOHN CULVER (D-IOWA), MORE ARMS CONTROL PROBLEMS WOULD BE CREATED THAN THE PROGRAM MIGHT BE WORTH. CHRISTOPHER

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